National Weather Service Watch, Warning, and Advisory Criteria

www.erh.noaa.gov/rah

Severe Weather Outlook	Severe Weather possible within next 24 - 48 hours			
Tornado Watch	Conditions favorable for tornadoes to develop over next few			
	hours			
Tornado Warning	Tornado imminentdetected by radar or reported on the			
	ground			
Severe Thunderstorm Watch	Conditions favorable for Severe Thunderstorms to develop			
Severe Thunderstorm	Thunderstorms producing winds >/= 58 mph and/or 3/4" hail			
Warning	(penny size hail)			
Flood Watch	Flooding possible/expected over next 12 – 48 hours.			
Flash Flood Warning	Flooding imminent. Immediate action required to protect			
	life (also issued for dam/levee failures)			
Flood Warning	Flooding expected to develop over a large area causing			
	damage and threatening life. Also issued for river flooding.			

Long Fused Watches / Warnings / Advisories

Bong I asea We	teries / // urin	ings / Muvisurics			
Winter Storm	4" Snow	½" Sleet	Hazards judged to pose a threat to		
Watch/Warning	accumulation	1/4" Freezing rain	life and property within 24 hours.		
Winter Weather	1" Snow	Any accretion of	Hazards cause "significant		
Advisory	accumulation	sleet / freezing	inconvenience" and warrant extra		
		rain	caution.		
Blizzard	Sustained or frequent gusts $>$ or $=$ 35 mph AND considerable				
Warning	blowing/drifting of snow reducing visibilities frequently < ¼ mile				
Wind Chill	0° F or less with wind speeds 10 mph or more.				
Advisory					
Wind Chill	-15° F or less wind speeds 10 mph or more.				
Warning					
Dense Fog	issued for widespread fog reducing visibilities to ½ mile or less				
Advisory					
Excessive Heat	Issued when there is a chance of excessive heat with a Heat Index 110 or				
Outlook	greater in the next 2-3 days.				
Heat Advisory	Heat Index 105° F to 109° F or for consecutive days of 100° F to 105° F				
Excessive Heat	Heat Index 110° F or greater for any duration on any day				
PACCSSIVE HEAT	Tical fluck 110 F of greater for any duration on any day				
Wind Advisory	31-39 mph sustained 1 hour or >; 46-57 mph any duration				
High Wind	> or = 40 mph sustained 1 hour or >; > or = 58 mph of any duration				
Warning					